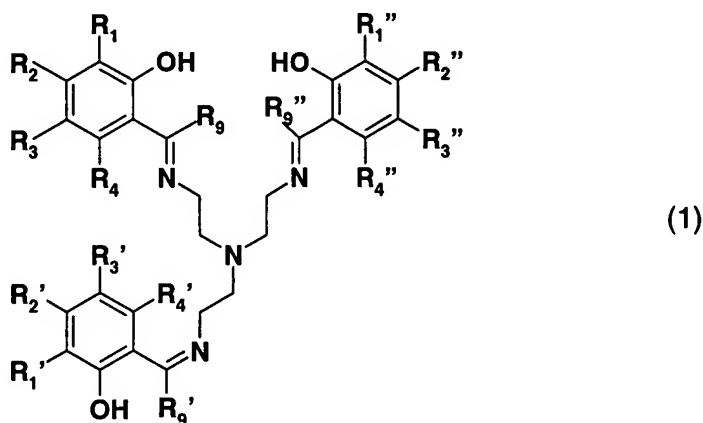


--22. (new) A process for oxidation, which comprises oxidizing an oxidizable substrate with a mixture of a peroxygen compound and, as oxidation catalyst, a metal complex containing a tripodal ligand of the formula

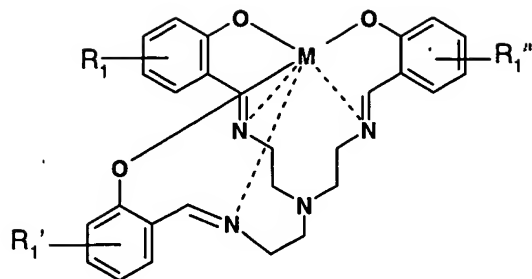


where

$R_1, R_2, R_3, R_4, R_1', R_2', R_3', R_4', R_1'', R_2'', R_3''$ and R_4'' are each independently hydrogen, cyano, halogen, SO_3M , where M is hydrogen, an alkali metal cation, an alkaline earth metal cation, ammonium or an organic ammonium cation, SO_2NH_2 , SO_2NHR_5 , $SO_2N(R_5)_2$, OR_5 or $COOR_5$, where R_5 is hydrogen or linear or branched C_1 - C_4 alkyl, nitro, linear or branched C_1 - C_8 alkyl, linear or branched fluorinated or perfluorinated C_1 - C_8 alkyl, NHR_6 , NR_6R_7 , $N^+R_6R_7R_{10}$ or linear or branched C_1 - C_8 alkyl- R_8 , where R_8 is OR_5 , $COOR_5$, NH_2 , NHR_6 , NR_6R_7 or $N^+R_6R_7R_{10}$, where R_6, R_7 and R_{10} are identical or different and each is linear or branched C_1 - C_{12} alkyl or where R_6 and R_7 combine with the joining nitrogen atom to form a 5-, 6- or 7-membered ring, which may contain further heteroatoms, and where R_9, R_9' and R_9'' are each independently hydrogen, linear or branched C_1 - C_8 alkyl or aryl.

23. (new) A process according to claim 22, in which the metal complex is an Mn(III) or Fe(III) complex containing a ligand of the formula (1).

24. (new) A process according to claim 23, in which the metal complex is a 1:1 metal(III) complex of the formula



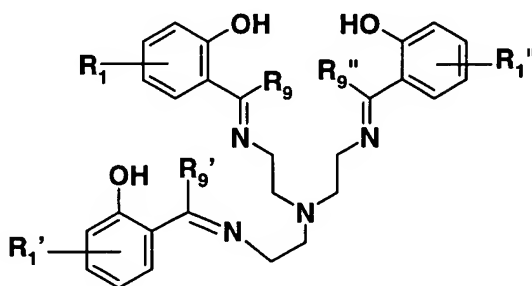
(2)

where Me is Mn or Fe, R_1 , R_1' and R_1'' are each independently hydrogen, C_1 - C_4 alkyl, C_1 - C_4 alkoxy, hydroxyl, nitro, NHR_6 , NR_6R_7 or $-N^{\oplus}R_5R_6R_7$, where R_5 , R_6 and R_7 are each independently C_1 - C_4 alkyl.

25. (new) A process according to claim 24, wherein the metal complex is an Mn(III) complex.

26. (new) A process according to claim 22, wherein a tripodal ligand of the formula (1) is used in an aqueous solution together with a peroxygen compound for bleaching spots or stains on textile material.

27. (new) A process according to claim 22, wherein the tripodal ligand conforms to the formula

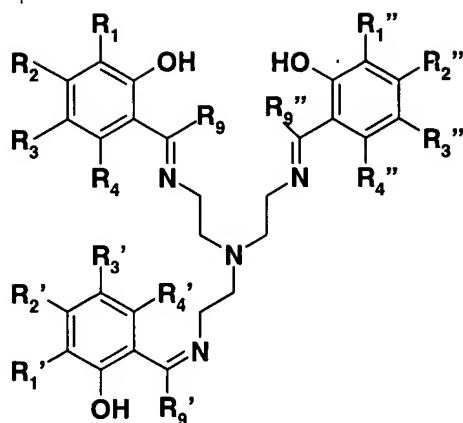


(3)

where

R_1 , R_1' and R_1'' are each independently hydrogen, C_1 - C_4 alkyl, C_1 - C_4 alkoxy, hydroxyl, nitro, NHR_6 , NR_6R_7 or $N^{\oplus}R_5R_6R_7$, where R_5 , R_6 and R_7 are each independently C_1 - C_4 alkyl and R_9 , R_9' and R_9'' are each independently hydrogen, linear or branched C_1 - C_8 alkyl or aryl.

28. (new) A manganese(III) or iron(III) complex containing a tripodal ligand of the formula

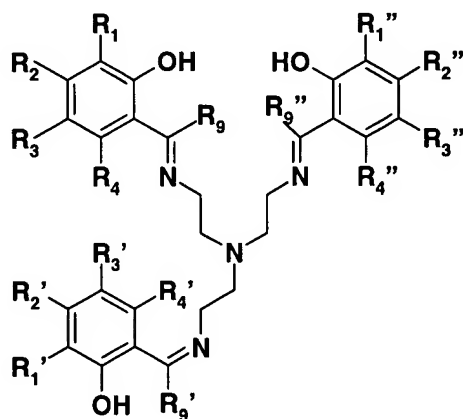


(1)

where

$R_1, R_2, R_3, R_4, R_1', R_2', R_3', R_4', R_1'', R_2'', R_3''$ and R_4'' are each independently hydrogen, cyano, halogen, SO_3M , where M is hydrogen, an alkali metal cation, an alkaline earth metal cation, ammonium or an organic ammonium cation, SO_2NH_2 , SO_2NHR_5 , $SO_2N(R_5)_2$, OR_5 or $COOR_5$, where R_5 is hydrogen or linear or branched C_1 - C_4 alkyl, nitro, linear or branched C_1 - C_8 alkyl, linear or branched fluorinated or perfluorinated C_1 - C_8 alkyl, NHR_6 , NR_6R_7 , $N^{\oplus}R_6R_7R_{10}$ or linear or branched C_1 - C_8 alkyl- R_8 , where R_8 is OR_5 , $COOR_5$, NH_2 , NHR_6 , NR_6R_7 or $N^{\oplus}R_6R_7R_{10}$, where R_6, R_7 and R_{10} are identical or different and each is linear or branched C_1 - C_{12} alkyl or where R_6 and R_7 combine with the joining nitrogen atom to form a 5-, 6- or 7-membered ring, which may contain further heteroatoms, and where R_9, R_9' and R_9'' are each independently hydrogen, linear or branched C_1 - C_8 alkyl or aryl, subject to the condition that in the manganese(III) complex at least one of the substituents $R_1, R_2, R_3, R_4, R_1', R_2', R_3', R_4', R_1'', R_2'', R_3'', R_4'', R_9, R_9'$ and R_9'' has a meaning other than hydrogen and that at least one of the substituents R_3, R_3' and R_3'' has a meaning other than chlorine when the substituents $R_1, R_2, R_4, R_1', R_2', R_4', R_1'', R_2'', R_4'', R_9, R_9'$ and R_9'' are all hydrogen.

29. (new) A ligand of the formula



(1)

where

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R₁, R₂, R₃, R₄, R₁', R₂', R₃', R₄', R₁", R₂", R₃" and R₄" are each independently hydrogen, cyano, halogen, SO₃M, where M is hydrogen, an alkali metal cation, an alkaline earth metal cation, ammonium or an organic ammonium cation, SO₂NH₂, SO₂NHR₅, SO₂N(R₅)₂, OR₅ or COOR₅, where R₅ is hydrogen or linear or branched C₁-C₄alkyl, nitro, linear or branched C₁-C₈alkyl, linear or branched fluorinated or perfluorinated C₁-C₈alkyl, NHR₆, NR₆R₇, N[⊕]R₆R₇R₁₀ or linear or branched C₁-C₈alkyl-R₈, where R₈ is OR₅, COOR₅, NH₂, NHR₆, NR₆R₇ or N[⊕]R₆R₇R₁₀, where R₆, R₇ and R₁₀ are identical or different and each is linear or branched C₁-C₁₂alkyl and where R₆ and R₇ combine with the joining nitrogen atom to form a 5-, 6- or 7-membered ring, which may contain further heteroatoms, or where R₉, R₉' and R₉" are each independently hydrogen, linear or branched C₁-C₈alkyl or aryl, subject to the condition that at least one of the substituents R₁, R₂, R₃, R₄, R₁', R₂', R₃', R₄', R₁", R₂", R₃", R₄", R₉, R₉' and R₉" has a meaning other than hydrogen and that at least one of the substituents R₃, R₃' and R₃" has a meaning other than chlorine when the substituents R₁, R₂, R₄, R₁', R₂', R₄', R₁", R₂", R₄", R₉, R₉' and R₉" are all hydrogen.

30. **(new)** A washing or cleaning process, which comprises adding to a liquor which contains a peroxidic detergent, 0.1 to 200 μmol per litre of wash liquor of one or more metal complexes or an uncomplexed ligand of the formula (1)) according to claim 29.

31. **(new)** A process for preventing the redeposition of migrating dyes in a wash liquor, which comprises adding to the wash liquor, which contains a peroxidic detergent, 0.5 to 150 mg per litre of wash liquor of one or more metal complexes containing a tripodal ligand of the formula (1) as defined in claim 22.

32. **(new)** A laundry detergent comprising

I) 5 - 90% of A) an anionic surfactant and/or B) a nonionic surfactant,

II) 5 - 70% of C) a builder,

III) 0.1 - 30% of D) a peroxide, and

IV) 0.005 - 2% of E) a metal complex containing a tripodal ligand of the formula (1) as defined in claim 22, the percentages all being percent by weight based on the total weight of the laundry detergent.

33. **(new)** A process according to claim 22, in which a hard surface is cleaned.

34. **(new)** A hard surface cleaner, which comprises a peroxygen compound and a metal complex containing a tripodal ligand of the formula (1) as defined in claim 22 as catalyst for the peroxygen compound.

35. **(new)** A hard surface cleaner according to claim 34, which is an automatic dishwasher cleaning composition.

36. **(new)** A process for cleaning crockery, which comprises using a hard surface cleaner according to claim 35.

37. **(new)** A process according to claim 33, wherein the hard surfaces which are cleaned are tiles and inter-tile joints.

38. **(new)** A process according to claim 22, which is a process for killing bacteria or for protecting a surface against bacterial colonization.

39. **(new)** An aqueous suspension comprising

- a) 1 - 60% by weight of a metal complex containing a tripodal ligand of the formula (1) as defined in claim 22,
- b) 0.5 to 15% by weight of a dispersant,
- c) 0 - 10% by weight of a further ingredient, and
- d) 15 - 98.5% by weight of water.

40. **(new)** A solid preparation comprising

- a) 1 - 99% by weight of a metal complex containing a tripodal ligand of the formula (1) as defined in claim 22,
- b) 1 to 99% by weight of a carrier material,
- c) 0 - 20% by weight of a dispersant,
- d) 0 - 10% by weight of a further ingredient, and
- e) 0 - 5% by weight of water.

41. **(new)** An aqueous suspension according to claim 39, wherein the metal complex containing a tripodal ligand of the formula (1) as defined therein has an average particle size of less than 20 μm .